



# Body Worn Cameras

The cameras are here!



# Body Worn Cameras

## Purpose

Familiarize Command staff with  
BWC Policy 6.131, BWC  
Operation Manual and Body  
Worn Cameras (BWC)  
-Condensed-



# Body Worn Cameras

## Topics

- Historical review – Why cameras?
- Policy/BWC Manual
- Definitions, Procedures, Operations, When and when not to record
- Policy – Do's and Don'ts



# Body Worn Cameras

## Topics

- Consider informing other agencies who work with your station that deputies will soon be equipped with body worn cameras
- Fire Departments, Border Patrol, CHP, etc.





# Body Worn Cameras

## Why we are here...



# Body Worn Cameras







# Body Worn Cameras

VIDEO REDACTED



# Body Worn Cameras

## Why?

- 59% Reduction in Use Of Force
- 87.5% Reduction in citizen complaint's (Rialto Police Dept.)
- From 2011 to 2012, Lake Havasu City Police Department showed complaints decreased by 58.2%



# Body Worn Cameras

## Policy and Procedure

- SDSO P&P 6.131 – Body-worn Camera Policy



# Body Worn Cameras

## Policy & Procedure Goals

- Capturing crimes in progress
- Documenting deputy response
- Aiding in statement / report documentation
- Serve as a training tool



# Body Worn Cameras Policy

P&P 6.131 – The San Diego County Sheriff's Department authorizes the use of Body Worn Camera (BWC) technology, with the goal of providing an additional layer of documentation for events, actions, conditions and statements made during critical incidents and to improve reports, collection of evidence and testimony in court. The use of the BWC technology is meant to assist and compliment Deputy Sheriff's and Community Services Officers in the performance of their duties and is not meant to replace or relieve the Deputy or Community Services Officer of his/her responsibility of submitting any and all required written reports.





# Body Worn Cameras Policy

All audio, images and media associated with the BWC are the property of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and will not be copied, released or disseminated in any form or manner outside the parameters of this policy without the express written release from the San Diego County Sheriff or his/her designee. Sheriff's Detectives assigned to conduct criminal investigations, creating a secondary copy of a BWC recording subsequent to an official investigation, are exempt from the above. Under no circumstances will any employee of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department make a personal copy of any recorded event.



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## When to record

- Deputies **shall** activate the BWC to record all law enforcement related contacts.
- While away from department facilities, deputies shall keep their BWC powered on and in stand-by mode.
- The record mode of the camera **shall** be activated prior to actual contact with the citizen, or as soon as safely possible.



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## When to record

- Informing people you are recording is not mandatory if you have a legal right to be in that location
- Continue recording until the contact is concluded or no longer any evidentiary value
- Use experience when deciding when you no longer need to record an event (Can restart)



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## Victim and Witness Interview

- Deputies/community services officers shall record victim and witness interviews. However, if the victim or witness refuses to provide a statement with the recorder turned on, the deputy may shut off the recorder after adhering to the following procedure:



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## Victim and Witness Interview

- Before turning off the recorder, the deputy shall verbally notate on the recorder the reason for shutting it off and the time it is shut off.
- During the interview, if it becomes appropriate to reactivate the recorder, the deputy will immediately or as soon as practical, do so.



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## Suspect Interview

- When recording interviews, deputies shall ensure they record any admonishments prior to the start of an interview.



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## What NOT to do

- Not for personal use (Official use only)
- No tampering with device
- Deputies are prohibited from pairing or using their personal phone, smart device, or other personal recording device for body-worn camera applications
- Deputies shall not make copies of any recording for their personal use and are prohibited from using a recording device (such as a camera phone or secondary video camera) to record media from BWC software or any device utilized to view data recorded on body-worn cameras.
- No unauthorized distribution



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## When NOT to record

- Pre-shift conferences
- Department locker rooms
- Break rooms
- Restrooms
- Report writing room
- Tactical briefings
- Undercover deputies
- Confidential informants





# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## When NOT to record

- Medical or psychological evaluations by a clinician or similar professional, or during treatment. This includes during PERT clinician interviews
- Court proceedings
  - Regardless of the setting, deputies confronting a violent or assaultive suspect, or anticipating using force, shall activate their BWCs to record the encounter.*



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

## When to view video

- You can review your own BWC videos for writing reports and prior to any interview
- Document the viewing of your video in the narrative of your report
- Can only review other deputies' videos with supervisor permission



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

- Should circumstances require the immediate retrieval of a digital recording (e.g., department shootings and department involved accidents with serious injury), a supervisor **shall** ensure that the BWC system is secured and maintain chain of custody.
  - Following a safety statement, the on-scene sergeant will collect the BWC system of any involved deputies for the investigators.*



# Body Worn Cameras Procedure

- In situations where a deputy is unable to provide information due to injury, their camera system may be viewed by any on scene deputy for the purpose of gaining critical investigative information.



# Body Worn Cameras

## Department Cell Phone Use

- Read and know the department's policy on cell phones (P&P 7.4)
- No expectation of privacy
- Will be seized and reviewed (OIS)



# Body Worn Cameras

## Department Cell Phone Use

- Group/team threads should remain professional
- Should only be used for work related correspondence
- The Location Services feature must be left on/active at all times.



# Body Worn Cameras Operation Manual

- The Operation Manual contains additional operational directives regarding the use of body worn cameras



# Body Worn Cameras

## Operation Manual

- Digital evidence captured by the BWC has limitations and is not all inclusive.
- Deputy/Officer safety shall be the primary consideration, ***not*** the ability to record an event.
- The safety of deputies and members of the public is the highest priority.





# Body Worn Cameras

## Operation Manual

### Definitions

- **BWC-** Body Worn Camera
- **Buffering Mode-** Captures **video only** on 30 sec. loop
- **ETS-** Evidence Transfer System
- **Metadata-** Data/text added to videos for tracking and managing digital evidence



# Body Worn Cameras

## Operation Manual

### Storage

- Store in Docking Station when not in use. Docking stations charge, upload footage and update the camera
- Exception: Traffic, Rural and K9



# Body Worn Cameras Operation Manual

- Inspect the camera prior to shift
- Demonstrations
- Unintentional recordings



# Body Worn Cameras Documentation

## Use of Force Documentation

- Narration of use of force and deputy action
- Totality of the circumstance (*Graham v. Connor*)
- Sound can be more important than video
- “Stop resisting” can be expanded
- If there were body-worn cameras on scene, the DA requires the video to file on 148 & 69 PC cases



# Body Worn Cameras Documentation

## Use of Force Documentation

- Cameras are an imperfect reflection of reality
- Document your reasons, actions and justifications just like we do now
- Document the things BWC's do not capture
- Review your BWC video
- With a supervisor's permission, you may view other deputies' videos for evidentiary reasons (document)



# Body Worn Cameras Considerations

- When you will be at the station and do not anticipate the need to record BWC video you may turn the camera off
- This will help preserve camera battery life as well as limit accidental recordings
- Be sure to turn the camera on if the need arises to take law enforcement action
- Turn camera **on** when exiting the station



# Body Worn Cameras

## Audio might be all that is recorded

**VIDEO REDACTED**



# Body Worn Cameras

## Professional Conduct

- Law Enforcement are held to higher standards
- High stress and emotional events
- Watch out for instigators & baiters
- Help your partners out
- [Blow a fuse video](#)





# Body Worn Cameras

## Professional Conduct

- Be aware of the potential to relax and get used to being recorded
- Audio might be all that is recorded
- Deputy Rodgers the rest of the story





## Axon Commander 4.5



San Diego County Sheriff's Department  
Video Analysis Unit

# What is Commander?

- Commander is a digital evidence management program
- Currently only for management of BWC videos
- Potential in the future to include all forms of digital evidence such as interview video, audio files, photographs, case documents, and BWC video



# Overview

- Deputies will enter metadata (which are tags for Event # and category) on the Axon View application for each video
- Deputies will dock their cameras and the videos will be uploaded into the Commander program with that metadata so videos can be searched for by event number, category, etc.
- The number of videos attached to each event should be noted in the property section of the crime/arrest report

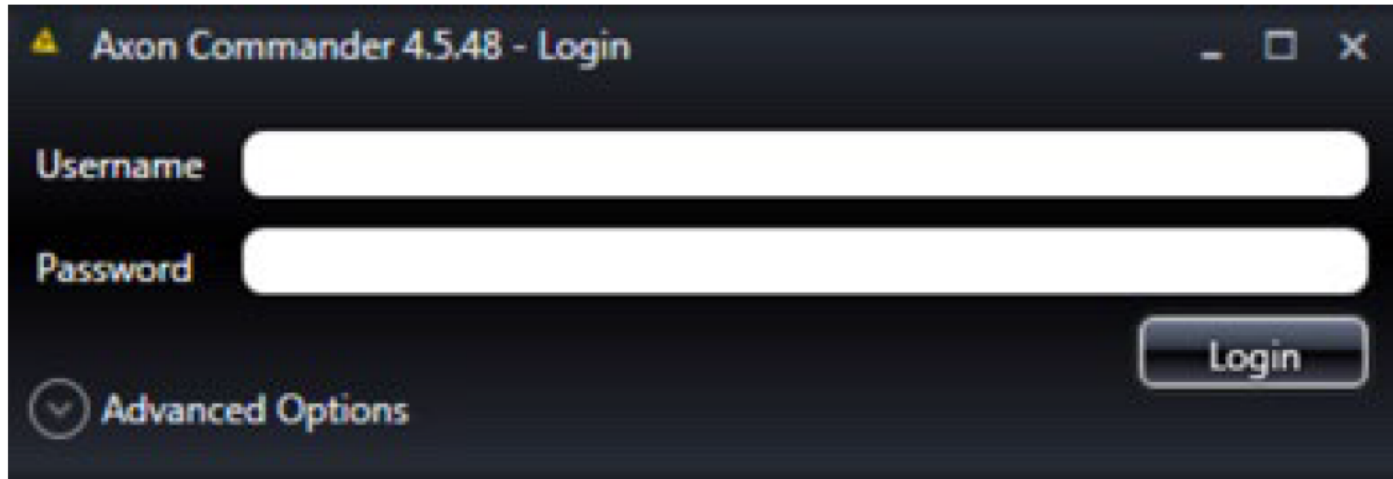


# Overview

- Investigators use the search pane using various filters to find the desired video(s)
- Investigators can organize their videos using a “tagging” system
- Commander can be used to view video, take snapshots (still frames), add bookmarks, etc.
- When the case is ready to be sent to DA, Tag with category “Send” and a drop down for the value will appear. Select “To DA” and the file(s) will be moved to a ‘bucket’ for the DA to access



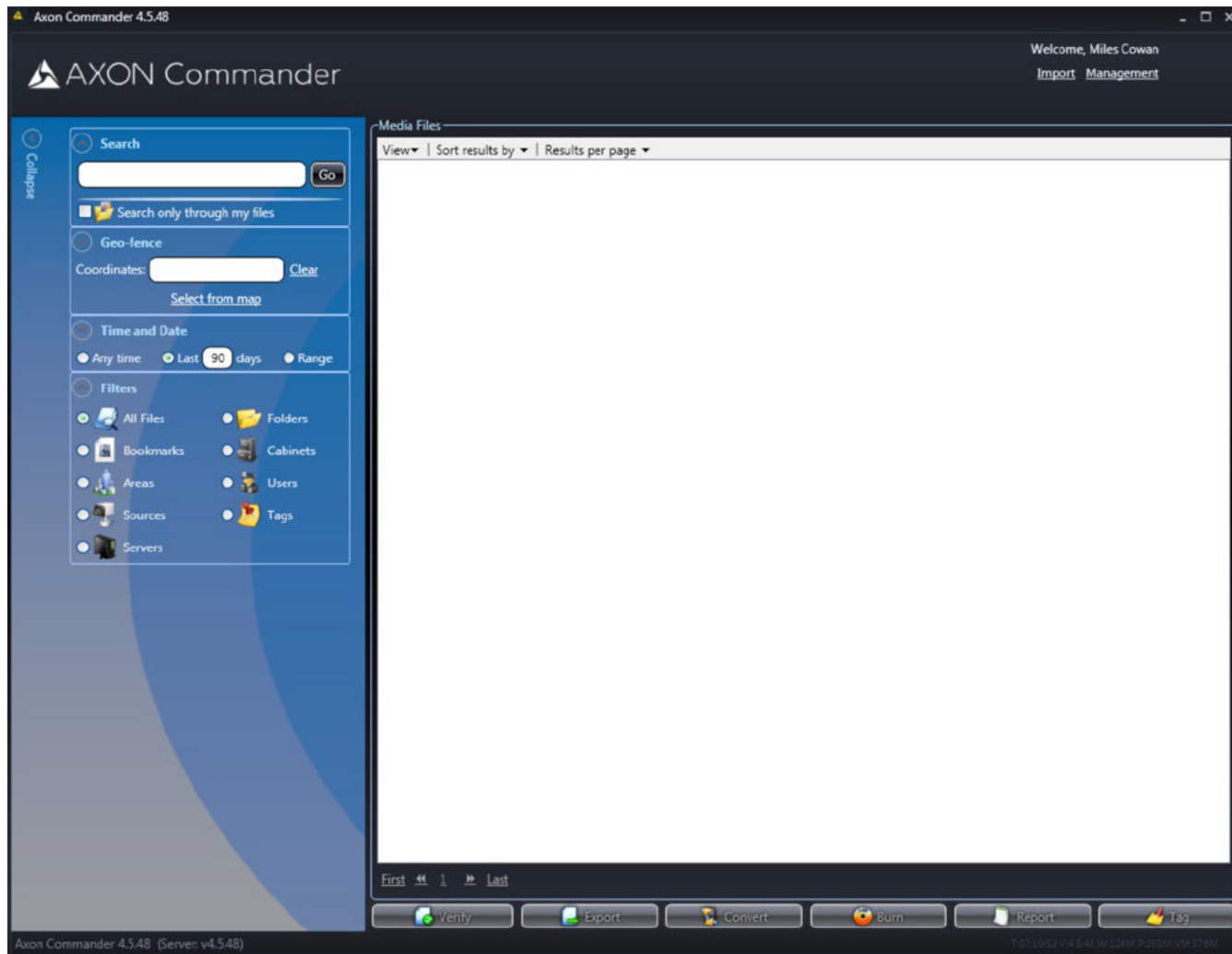
# Launching Commander

A screenshot of the Axon Commander 4.5.48 login window. The window has a dark blue header with the title "Axon Commander 4.5.48 - Login" and standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close). Below the header, there are two white text input fields: "Username" and "Password". To the right of the "Password" field is a "Login" button. At the bottom left, there is a "Advanced Options" link with a downward arrow icon.


- Launch Commander from Shortcut Icon on Desktop
- Commander Client Login screen appears
- Type in your Username and Password in text boxes and click **Login**
- This will be your Sheriff's Desktop username and password





# Commander Main Page




# Search Pane

 Collapse


 Search

☐  Search only through my files

 Geo-fence

Coordinates:  [Clear](#)

[Select from map](#)


 Time and Date










☐ Any time ☐ Last  days ☒ Range

Time Frame

From

To

 Filters

<input checked="" type="radio"/>  All Files	<input type="radio"/>  Folders
<input type="radio"/>  Bookmarks	<input type="radio"/>  Cabinets
<input type="radio"/>  Areas	<input type="radio"/>  Users
<input type="radio"/>  Sources	<input type="radio"/>  Tags
	<input type="radio"/>  Destinations





Search

☒

Search only through my files

Geo-fence

Coordinates:

Time and Date

☒ Any time
☐ Last  days
☐ Range

Filters

☒ All Files
☐ Folders

☐ Bookmarks
☐ Cabinets

☐ Areas
☐ Users

☐ Sources
☐ Tags

☐ Servers

## Media Files

View ▾ | Sort results by ▾ | Results per page ▾

### August, 2015 [3 item(s)]



2015-08-21  
12:31:50  
28m9s  
MP4

FLEX.X78058038.0012.150821.12...



2015-08-21  
12:31:46  
30m2s  
MP4

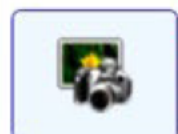
BODY.X78032315.0015.150821.1...



2015-08-21  
12:31:42  
30m2s  
MP4

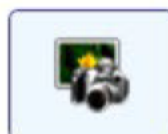
BODY.X78046669.0013.150821.1...

### June, 2014 [3 item(s)]



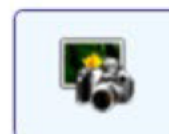
2014-06-29  
00:18:40  
JPG

Scene 1234



2014-06-29  
00:18:36  
JPG

Scene 1234



2014-06-29  
00:18:18  
JPG

Scene 1234

### July, 2007 [5 item(s)]



2007-07-11  
07:13:02  
JPG

Shooting



2007-07-11  
07:13:02  
JPG

Shooting



2007-07-11  
07:13:02  
JPG

Shooting



2007-07-11  
07:13:02  
JPG

Shooting



2007-07-11  
07:13:02  
JPG

Shooting

# Body Worn Cameras Contact Information

## Video Analysis Unit

Sgt. David Collins  
Deputy Juliet Dias  
Cpl. Alexander Roti  
Deputy Justin Cole

